

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 3, and add new claims 4-8, so that a complete list of the pending claims will read as follows:

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1. (currently amended) A signal processor for a joystick ~~comprising~~; comprising:
a joystick input device (11) which ~~varies~~ controls a joystick voltage input value V_i
~~according~~ in response to an operating amount of a joystick (10) from a neutral position,
an input means (13) which inputs the average value of the joystick voltage input value V_i
read at every sampling time over a predetermined number of past occasions as a joystick voltage
computation value V_{ic} , ~~and~~
computation means (14) which computes an output computation value V_{oc} set ~~according~~
in response to the joystick voltage computation value ~~V_{ic}~~ ; V_{ic} , and
operation start detecting means which detects an operation start when the joystick (10) is
pushed over from the neutral position,
wherein the computation means (14) increases the output computation value V_{oc} to a
predetermined value in response to the joystick voltage compensation value V_{ic} and
momentarily causes a predetermined maximum current when operation is detected to start.

Claim 2 (cancelled).

3. (currently amended) A signal processor for a joystick ~~comprising~~; comprising:
a joystick input device (11) which varies a joystick voltage input value V_i according to an operating amount of a joystick (10) from a neutral position, an
input means (13) which outputs the average value of the joystick voltage input value V_i read at every sampling time over a predetermined number of past occasions as a joystick voltage computation value V_{ic} ,
computation means (14) which computes an output computation value V_{oc} set according to the joystick voltage computation value V_{ic} , and
operation start detecting means which detects an operation start when the joystick (10) is pushed over from the neutral position,
wherein the computation means (14) increases the output computation value V_{oc} to an effective maximum value and momentarily causes a predetermined maximum current when operation starts.

4. (new) A signal processor for use between a manually operable input arrangement and a proportional solenoid valve that is coupled to a hydraulic cylinder, the input arrangement providing an input signal, said signal processor comprising:

means for sampling the input signal to generate a sequence of digital samples;
means for generating a sequence of digital computed values from a latest one of the samples and a predetermined number of earlier samples;
means for converting the digital computed values to an analog signal; and
a drive circuit that supplies drive current to the proportional solenoid valve in response to the analog signal.

5. (new) The signal processor of claim 4, wherein the input arrangement comprises a joystick.

6. (new) The signal processor of claim 4, wherein the computed values are averages.

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7. (new) The signal processor of claim 4, further comprising means, responsive to the drive current, for detecting when the input arrangement is displaced from a neutral position.

8. (new) The signal processor of claim 7, wherein the drive current is temporarily increased to a predetermined maximum value when the means for detecting detects that the input arrangement has been displaced from the neutral position.
